Secrt. II.-27—100,000—21-5-43.

Development (1943 M) Department.

No. SERIES.

G.O. No. 2026

Dated 16th October 1943

[Despatch Abstract.]

Agriculture - Grow More Food - Agricultural Engineering Store and Servicing Centre - Opening of - Modified Scheme Called for.

Development Department.

NOTE FOR THE STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE.

AGRICULTURE - Grow more food - Opening of a Central Agriculture Engineering Store and Servicing Centre, at Madras.

Summary of cost.

Major Head of Account	Minor and Sub-head of Account.	Ultimate cost.		Cost in the year of introduction	
		Recurring	Non-Recurring	Recurring	Non-Recurring
		Rs. (in lakhs).	Rs.	Rs. (in lakhs).	Rs.
Agriculture	Agricultural Experiments and Research excluding Post-War Reconstruction Pay of staff	.42		.01	..
	Agricultural Engineering 4 Contingencies	54.66	.48	1.64	.11

In May 1947 the Government agreed to a policy under which the agriculturists were to be given facilities for securing electrical materials like motor pumps, switches, starters, etc. and other necessaries like pipes, and called for proposals from the Director of Agriculture for starting a Central Store Servicing Centre at Madras for storing and distributing and servicing these materials. The Director has now submitted proposals for opening such a store. The cost of the scheme is estimated at Rs.55.56 lakhs as shown below.

	Recurring Rupees in lakhs.	Non-recurring Rupees in lakhs.
(1) Expenditure on the purchase of pumpsets, pipes and fittings, switches and starters.	54.66*	Nil
(2) Cost of machine tools and Plants	Nil	.48
(3) Expenditure on staff	.42	Nil
Total (in lakhs)	Rs. 55.08	.48

*The expenditure on item (1) above is recoverable, but not those on items (2) and (3).

Under item (1), 2,400 electric motors and necessary accessories are proposed to be purchased locally and 1,000 electric motors are proposed to be purchased from abroad. The total number proposed is not extravagant as the Electricity Department has planned for an annual electric connection of 4,000 fresh pumping sets. As the whole cost on the purchase of electric motors etc. is to be recovered from the agriculturists to whom they will be sold, no net expenditure to the Government is involved. The Director of Agriculture has stated that on account of the bulk purchase, the ryots will actually stand to gain by favourable prices. He will be asked to adopt ~~the~~ "the tender system" for the purchase of these motors etc.

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The estimate in item (2) is reasonable and the machine tools etc. are necessary for the proper testing of the motors and for servicing.

As regards item (3) viz. staff, the scale of staff proposed is as follows:-

Designation	Scale of pay
GAZETTED:-	
One Assistant Agricultural Engineer (gazetted)	230 - 700
Non-Gazetted:-	
Three Agricultural Engineering Supervisors	Passed Engineers Rs.140/- starting L.M.E's Rs.100/- starting.
Three foremen	Rs.85-5-150 each
One Store-Keeper, II Grade	Rs.100-5-150 Each
Three Assistant Store keepers III Grade	Rs.60-4-100 each
One Accountant	Rs.140-5-190
Two Upper Division Clerks	Rs.80-110 each
Four Lower Division clerks	Rs.45 - 90 each
Two Typists	Rs.45-60 each
Six fitters	Rs.30-1-60 each
Two pumpset drivers	Rs.30-2-40 each
Two attenders	Rs.25-1-35 each
Three peons	Rs.16-½-25 each
Three watchmen	Rs.15/- each
Four coolies	Rs.15/- each

One Assistant Engineer is absolutely necessary for the Central Store and Servicing Centre. As regards the subordinate staff the Director of Agriculture has reported that he does not propose to engage the entire staff immediately sanction is accorded, but to employ only the nucleus staff to start with, and then to strengthen gradually within the sanctioned limit.

2. The Director has suggested that if the scheme is to be made self-supporting the levy of a small percentage of the sale prices may be allowed, and the entire expenditure made remunerative on a long-term basis, The capital investment on five M & B sheds required for housing the Store will be Rs.1,25,000/- (to be met from the general scheme for erection of M & B sheds) and that on the purchase of machine tools, Rs.48,000/-. The Director has calculated the centage charges at 1-1/5% on the basis of this capital investment, but he has fixed it at 2% to provide for probable unforeseen items of expenditure and to ensure that there are no losses even from the very commencement of the scheme.

Finance have suggested that if, on actual working, the 2% centage charges are not found sufficient to avoid any liability being thrown on provincial funds, the percentage may be revised suitably.

3. The Director of Agriculture is not in favour of treating the proposals as a supplemental scheme in the Five Year Plan for Food production. He states that this Plan is not intended merely as part of the Five Year programme, but it is a large scale plan intended for long term development. The Government of India are also not likely to agree to make any grant towards the cost of this scheme, which is a self-supporting one.

4. The Director of Agriculture considers that the proposed Central Agricultural Engineering Store is necessary for the reasons that the scheme proposed is mainly intended to serve the ryots and to assist them in the quick supply and installation of pumpsets on their wells. This department supported the Director of Agriculture's proposals. Finance have accepted the proposals,

and....

and suggested that the "New Service procedure may be followed The minutes of the Hon. Minister for Agriculture and the Hon. Minister for Finance, when the case was circulated for preliminary approval, are extracted below:-

"This has already been agreed to after full consideration by me, H.M. (Fin.), H.M. (P.W.) and H.Pr. in G.O.No.2343 (R) at pp.12 and 13 N.F. The above proposals are only details of what has already been approved and it has taken already six months to fix the details. May be approved without further delay to go to Standing Finance Committee. It can atleast come as supplemental budget in the current year.

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The proposals to open a Central Store for storing and distributing electric motors and other agricultural necessaries and servicing centre Madras, at a cost of Rs.55.08 lakhs recurring and Rs.0.48 lakhs non-recurring is accordingly placed before the Standing Finance Committee for its recommendation.

5. The urgent opening of the Central Agricultural Engineering Store and Servicing Centre has become necessary in view of the large demand from the ryots for electric motors, pipes, etc. The views of the Standing Finance Committee are also invited for dispensing with the reference to the Cabinet, in view of the urgency. Details regarding budget provision also are given below:--

(a)	Budget provision under the Major Head of Account - "40. Agriculture" ..	Rs.1,16,86,500
(b)	Actual expenditure to the end of October 1947 under the major head of account ..	65,08,285
(c)	Estimate of extra expenditure on the present scheme in the current year ..	1,76,000 00 (1.76 lakhs).
(d)	Savings in the budget provision for other items included in the major head ..	No savings are anticipated at present.
(e)	Total commitment in the year under the major head on account of new schemes (not provided for in the budget) sanctioned since the beginning of the financial year upto the end of the month of October 1947 ..	13,21,084
(f)	Total commitment in the year under all major heads on account of new schemes (not provided for in the budget) sanctioned since the beginning of the financial year upto the end of the month of October 1947	Rs.3,12,21,560

W. R. S. Sathianathan,
Secretary to Government.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

(Abstract)

Agriculture - Grow More Food - Agricultural Engineering Store and Servicing Centre - Opening of - Modified Scheme - Called for.

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Development Department

G.O.Ms.No.5086, Dated 16th October 1948
Read the following:--

From the Joint Director of Agriculture, corresponding ending with letter No.TT1-2201/48, dated 2-8-1948.

O r d e r:

The Standing Finance Committee which considered the proposals at the meeting held on 7th October 1948 has desired that the scheme may be revised on the basis of 1000 electrical pumpsets, 100 diesel oil pumpsets, 3% centage charges and a proportionate cut in the staff asked for. The Joint Director of Agriculture is requested to revise the scheme and submit a self-contained proposals immediately

for ...

for the consideration of the Standing Finance Committee and the Government.

By Order of His Excellency the Governor)

Sd/ ** **
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To the Joint Director of Agriculture.

(True copy)

Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

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